

## Weed Topics —

### Rush skeletonweed found in Morrow Co.



# Walls

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## Gardner's

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OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SALEM, OREGON

Australia clearly demonstrates the potential of this weed to become a major threat in both cultivated areas and on rangeland.

Early in the century skeleton weed was accidentally introduced into Australia where it gained a foothold, spread, and came to be a significant problem of dryland cereal production. Competition from the weed reduced wheat yields by as much as 70 percent, and the tall wiry stalks made harvest operations difficult or impossible. The combination of these factors resulted in annual losses of more than \$25 million to the Australian wheat industry.

The weed was discovered growing along I-84 approximately 10 miles east of Boardman. Approximately 50 to 60 mature and seedling plants were located after a survey of the area was conducted. The mature plants in the bud and flowering stage were clipped and placed in plastic sacks to keep the seeds from spreading. The plants were later sprayed with the herbicide Tordon 22K. A follow up survey showed that all plants sprayed were dead. However, a second survey of the area will be conducted next year to assure the weed stays out of the county.

Here are some facts about Rush skeletonweed that you should know and remember:

- Perennial
- Deep-rooted -- 10-15 feet deep
- Pulling the plant causes an increase in new plants from lateral roots
- Root sections 3/4 inch long are capable of regeneration
- Flower cycle lasts one day and seed dispersal comes the following day
- Capable of invading dryland, irrigated cropland and rangeland

Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea* L.), the states most noxious weed, has been found in northern Morrow County. The weed is a deep rooted perennial native to Eurasia that has recently been found in Wasco, Sherman, Umatilla and Douglas counties. While currently of limited distribution in the state, experience in other states and in

It is disappointing that skeleton weed has found its way to our county so soon but we are lucky that it was identified and eradication measures taken. Please, help to KEEP IT OUT.

## Equipment Repair & Custom Fabrication



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### ● Bale Forks ● Truck Beds

## MILLER & SONS WELDING

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SEEDS

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